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THE PETITION OF The LORDS and COMMONS in Parliament, delivered to His Majestie the 16. day of July:

TOGETHER

With His MAJESTIES ANSWER thereunto.

Charles R.

OUr expresse Pleasure is, That this Petition of the Lords and Commons, with Our Answer thereto, be read in all Churches and Chappells within the Kingdom of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*, by the Parsons, Vicars or Curates of the same.

Gr. Brit. -- Parliament

LONDON:
Printed by ROBERT BARKER, Printer to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And by the Assignes of JOHN BILL.
MDCXLII.

PETITION

OF

The Lords and Commons

in Parliament, delivered to His

Majestie the 15. day of July:

TOGETHER

With His MAJESTIES

ANSWER thereunto.

Charles R.

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M.DC.XLII.

TO

THE KINGS MOST Excellent MAJESTIE

The humble Petition of the Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament.

May it please Your Majestie,

ALthough we Your Majesties most humble and faithfull Subjects, the Lords and Commons in Parliament Assembled, have been very unhappy in many former Petitions and Supplications to Your Majesty, Wherein we have represented our most dutifull Affections, in advising and desiring those things which we held most necessary for the preservation of Gods true Religion, Your Majesties safety and Honour, and

the Peace of the Kingdome; And with much ſorrow do perceive, That Your Majeſty, incenſed by many falſe Calumnies and Slanders, doth continue to raiſe Forces againſt us, and Your other Peaceable and Loyall Subjects, and to make great Preparations for War, both in the Kingdom, and from beyond the Seas; And by Arms and violence to over-rule the Judgement and Advice of Your great Councell, and by force to determine the Queſtions there depending, concerning the Government and Libertie of the Kingdom; Yet ſuch is our earneſt deſire of diſcharging our duty to Your Majeſty and the Kingdome, to preſerve the Peace thereof, and to prevent the Miſeries of Civill War amongſt Your Subjects, That notwithſtanding we hold our ſelves bound to uſe all the means and power, which by the Lawes and Conſtitutions of this Kingdome we are truſted with, for Defence and Protection thereof, and of the Subjects from force and violence; We do in this our humble and Loyall Petition proſtrate our ſelves at Your Majeſties feet, beſeeching Your Royall Majeſtie, That You will be pleaſed to forbear and remove all Preparations and Actions of War, particularly the Forces from about *Hull*, from *Newcaſtle*, *Tynmouth*, *Lincoln*, and *Lincolnſhire*, and all other Places; And that Your Majeſty will recall the Commiſſions of Array, which are illegal; Diſmiſſe Troops, and extraordinary Guards, by You raiſed; That Your Majeſty will come neerer to Your Parliament, and hearken to their faithfull Advice, and humble Petitions, which ſhall only tend to the defence and advancement of Religion, Your own Royall Honor and ſafety, the Preſervation of our Laws and Liberties; And we have been, and ſhall ever be carefull to

prevent

prevent and punish all Tumults and seditious Actions, Speeches, and Writings, which may give Your Majestie just cause of distast or apprehension of danger; from which publike Aimes and Resolutions no siniſter or private respect, shall ever make us to decline; That Your Majestie will leave Delinquents to the due course of Justice; And that nothing done or spoken in Parliament, or by any Person in pursuance of the Command and Direction of both Houses of Parliament be questioned any where but in Parliament.

And we, for our Parts, shall be ready to lay down all those preparations which we have been forced to make for our defence. And for the Town of *Hull*, and the Ordinance concerning the *Militia*, as we have, in both these particulars, onely sought the preservation of the peace of the Kingdom, and the Defence of the Parliament from force and violence; So we shall most willingly leave the Town of *Hull* in the state it was before Sir *John Hotham* drew any Forces into it, delivering Your Majesties Magazine into the Tower of *London*; And supplying whatsoever hath been disposed by us for the service of the Kingdom; We shall be ready to settle the *Militia* by a Bill, in such a way, as shall be Honourable and safe for Your Majestie, most agreeable to the duty of Parliament, and effectuall for the good of the Kingdom, that the strength thereof be not imployed against it self; And that which ought to be for our security, applied to our destruction; And that the Parliament, and those who professe and desire still to preserve the Protestant Religion, both in this Realm, and in *Ireland*, may not be left naked, and indefensible, to the mischievous designes, and cruell attempts of those,

who

who are the profest and confederated Enemies thereof in Your Majesties Dominions, and other Neighbour-Nations: To which if Your Majesties Courses and Counsels shall from hence-forth concur, we doubt not but we shall quickly make it appear to the World, by the most eminent effects of Love and Duty, That Your Majesties personall safety, Your Royall Honour and Greatnesse are much deerer to us then our own Lives and Fortunes; Which we do most heartily Dedicate, and shall most willingly imploy for the support and maintenance thereof.

His

His Majesties Answer

To the PETITION of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament.

THough His Majestie had no great reason to beleeve, that the Directions sent to the Earle of Warwick to go to the river of Humber, with as many Ships as he should think fit, for all possible assistance to Sir John Hotham (whilest His Majestie expected the giving up of the Town unto Him) and to carry away such Arms from thence as His discretion thought fit to

spare out of His Majesties own Magazine; The cyuling a Generall by both Houses of Parliament, for the defence of those who have obeyed their Orders and Commands (be they never so extravagant and illegall) Their Declaration, That in that Case, they would live and die with the Earle of *Essex* their Generall (all which were Voted the same day with this Petition) And the committing the Lord Major of London to Prison for executing His Majesties Writs and lawfull Commands, were but ill Prologues to a Petition which might compose the miserable Distractions of the Kingdom: Yet His Majesties passionate desire of the Peace of the Kingdom, together with the Preface of the Petenters, That they had brought a Petition full of Duty and Submission to His Majestie, and which desired nothing of Him but His consent to Peace (which His Majestie conceived to be the Language of both Houses too) begot a greedie hope and expectation in Him, that this Petition would have been such an Introduction to Peace, that it would at least have satisfied His Message of the Eleventh of this Moneth, by delivering up Hull unto His Majestie: But to His unspeakable Griefe, His Majestie hath too much Cause to believe, that the end of some persons by this Petition is not in truetly to give any reall satisfaction to His Majestie, but by the specious pretences of making offers to Him, to mislead and seduce His people, and lay some imputation upon Him of denying what is fit to be granted, otherwise it would not have thrown those unjust reproaches and scandalls upon

His

His Majestie, for making necessary and just Defence for His own Safetie, and so peremptorily justified such actions against Him, as by no Rule of Law or Justice can admit the least colour of Defence, and after so many free and unlimited Acts of Grace passed by His Majestie, without any Condition, have proposed such things which in Justice cannot be denied unto Him, upon such conditions as in Honour He cannot grant. However, that all the world may see how willing His Majestie would be to imbrace any overture that might beget a right understanding between Him and His two Houses of Parliament (with whom He is sure He shall have no Contention, when the private Practices and subtile Insinuations of some few Malignant Persons shall be discovered (which His Majestie will take care shall be speedily done) He hath with great Care weighed the particulars of this Petition, and returns this Answer:

THat the Petitioners were never unhappy in their Petitions or Supplications to His Majestie, while they desired any thing which was necessary or convenient for The preservation of Gods true Religion; His Majesties safetie and Honour; and, The Peace of the Kingdom; And therefore when those generall envious Foundations are laid, His Majestie could with some particular instances had been applied. Let Envie and Malice object one particular Proposition for the Preservation of Gods true Religion, which His Majestie hath refused to

consent to; What Himself hath often made for the ease of tender Consciences, and for the advancement of The Protestant Religion, is notorious by many of His Messages and Declarations; What regard hath been to His Honour and Safetie, when He hath been driven from some of His Houses, and kept from other of His Towns by force; And what care there hath been of The Peace of the Kingdom, when endeavour hath been used to put all His Subjects in Arms against Him, is so evident, That His Majestie is confident He cannot suffer by those generall Imputations: It is enough that the world knows what He hath granted, and what He hath denied.

For His Majesties raising forces, and making preparations for War (whatsoever the Petitioners by the Evil Arts of the Enemies to His Majesties Person and Government, and by the Calumnies and Slanders raised against His Majestie by them, are induced to beleeve) all men may know what is done that way, is but in order to His own Defence. Let the Petitioners remember that (which all the world knows) His Majestie was driven from His Palace of Whitehall for safety of His life; That both Houses of Parliament upon their own Authority raised a Guard to themselves (having gotten the command of all the Train-Bands of London to that purpose) without the least colour or shadow of danger; That they usurped a Power by their pretended Ordinance (against all Principles and Elements of Law) over the whole Militia of the Kingdom, without and against His Majesties consent;

That they took poſſeſſion of His Town, Fort, and Magazine of Hull, and committed the ſame to Sir John Hotham, who ſhut the Gates againſt His Majeſtie, and by force of Arms denied entrance thither to His own Perſon; That they juſtified this act, which they had not directed, and took Sir John Hotham into their Protection for whatſoever he had done or ſhould do againſt His Majeſtie; And all this, whileſt His Majeſtie had no other attendance then His own meniall Servants. Upon this the Duty and Affection of this County prompted His Subjects here to provide a ſmall Guard for His own Perſon; which was no ſooner done, but a late ſuddenly paſſed of His Majeſties intention to make War againſt His Parliament (which God knows His heart abhorreth) and notwithſtanding all His Majeſties Profeſſions, Declarations and Proteſtations to the contrary, ſeconded by the cleer teſtimony of ſo great a number of Peers upon the place; Propoſitions and Orders for leavies of Men, Horſe and Arms were ſent thorowout the Kingdom, Plate and Money brought in and received, Horſe and Men raiſed towards an Armie, muſtered and under Command, and all this contrary to the Law and to His Majeſties Proclamation. And a Declaration publiſhed, That if He ſhould uſe force for the recovery of Hull, or ſuppreſſing the pretended Ordinance for the Militia, it ſhould be held leavying War againſt the Parliament, and all this done before His Majeſtie granted any Commiſſion for the levying or raiſing a man; His Majeſties Ships were taken

from Him, and committed to the Custody of the Earl of Warwick, who presumes under that power to usurp to himself the Soveraignty of the Sea, to chase, fright, & imprison such of His Majesties good Subjects as desire to obey His lawfull Commands, although he had notice of the legall Revocation of the Earl of Northumberlands Commission of Admiral whereby all power derived from that Commission ceased. Let all the world now judge who began this War, and upon whose Account the Miseries which may follow must be cast, what His Majestie could have done lesse then He hath done, and whether He were not compelled to make Provision both for the defence of Himself, and recovery of what is so violently and injuriously taken from Him; And whether these Injuries and Indignities are not just grounds for His Majesties feares and apprehensions of farther mischief and danger to Him, whereof the Fears and Jealousies of the Petitioners have proceeded hath never been discovered; The dangers they have brought upon His good Subjects are too evident; what those are they have prevented, no man knows; And therefore His Majestie cannot but look upon that Charge, as the boldest, and the most scandalous hath been yet laid upon Him, That this necessary Provision made for His own Safety and Defence, is to over-rule the Judgement and Advice of His great Councell, and by Force to determine the Question there depending concerning the Government and Liberty of the Kingdom. If no other Force had been raised to determine those Questions then by His Majestie

this

this unhappy mill-understanding had not been. And His Majestie no longer desires the Blessing and protection of Almighty God upon Himself and His posterity, then He and They shall solemnly observe the due Execution of the Laws in the Defence of Parliaments, and the just Freedom thereof.

For the Forces about Hull, His Majestie will remove them when He hath attained the end for which they were brought thither. When Hull shall be reduced again to His subjection, He will no longer have an Army before it; And when He shall be assured that the same necessity and pretence of publique good, which took Hull from Him, may not put a Garrison into Newcastle, to keep the same against Him, He will remove His from thence, and from Tinmouth; till when, the Example of Hull will not out of His memorie.

For the Commissions of Array, which are Legall, and are so proved by a Declaration now in the Presse, His Majestie wonders why they should at this time be thought grievous, and fit to be recalled, if the fears of Invasion and Rebellion be so great, that by an illegall pretended Ordinance it is necessary to put His Subjects into a Posture of Defence, to Array, Train and Muster them, He knows not why the same should not be done in a regular, known, lawfull way: But if in the execution of that Commission, any thing shall be unlawfully imposed upon His Subjects, His Majestie will take all just and necessary care for their redresse.

For His Majesties coming neerer to His Parliament

ment, His Majestie hath expressed Himself so
in His severall Messages, Answers, and Declara-
ons, and so particularly avowed a reall fear of
Safety, upon such instances as cannot be answe
that He hath reason to take Himself somewhat
lected, That since upon so manifest Reasons
not safe for His Majestie to come to them, both
Houses of Parliament will not come neerer to
Majestie, or to such a place where the freedom
Dignity of Parliament might be preserved.
ever His Majestie shall be very glad to hear of
such Example in their punishing the Tum
(which He knows not how to expect, when
have declared, That they knew not of any Tumu
though the House of Peers desired, both for the
nity and Freedom of Parliament, That the Ho
of Commons would joyn with them in a Decla
tion against Tumults, which they refused (that
neglected to do) and other seditious Actions, S
ches, and Writings, as may take that apprehen
of danger from Him, though when He remembe
the particular complaints Himself hath made
business of that nature, and that in stead of
quiring out the Authors, neglect of Examina
hath been, when offer hath been made to both H
ses to produce the Authors (as in that Treasona
Paper concerning the Militia) and when He see
every day Pamphlets published against His Crow
and against Monarchy it self, as the Observation
upon His late Messages, Declarations, and
presses, and some Declarations of their own, whe

give

give too great incouragement in that Argument to
affected Persons; His Majestie cannot with con-
ence entertain those hopes which would be most
welcome to him.

For the leaving Delinquents to the due course of
Justice; His Majestie is most assured He hath been
shelter to any such: If the tediousnesse and delay
prosecution, the vast charge in Officers Fees, the
keeping men under a generall Accusation without
all a whole yeer and more, and so allowing them
way for their Defence and Vindication, have
ighted men away from so chargeable and uncer-
an attendance; The Remedie is best provided
here the Disease grew. If the Law be the mea-
e of Delinquencie, none such are within His
Majesties Protection: But if by Delinquents, such
understood who are made so by Vote, without
trespasse upon any known or established Law;
by Delinquents those nine Lords are understood,
are made Delinquents for obeying His Ma-
ies Summons to come to Him, after their stay
re was neither safe nor honourable, by reason of
Tumults and other Violencies, and whose Im-
chment, He is confident, is the greatest breach
Priviledge that before this Parliament was
offered to the House of Peers. If by Delin-
ts, such are understood who refuse to submit to
pretended Ordinance of the Militia, to that of the
le, or to any other which His Majestie hath not
sented to, such who for the Peace of the King-
, in an humble manner, prepare Petitions to

 Him,

Him, or to both Houses, as His good Subjects of London and Kent did; whilest seditious ones, as that of Essex, and other places, are allowed and cherished; If by Delinquents such are understood, who are called so for publishing His Proclamations, (as the Lord Major of London) or for reading His Messages and Declarations (as divers Ministers about London and elsewhere) when those against Him are dispersed with all care and industry, to poison and corrupt the Loyalty and Affection of His people; If by Delinquents, such are understood, who have or shall lend His Majestie Money, in the Universities, or in any other place, His Majestie declares to all the world, That He will protect such with His utmost Power and strength. And directs, That in these cases they submit not to any Messengers or warrants, It being no lesse the duety to protect those who are innocent, then to bring the guilty to Condigne punishment, of both which the Law is to be Judge. And if both Houses do think fit to make a Generall, and to raise an Armie for defence of those who obey their Orders and Commands; His Majestie must not sit still, and suffer such who submit to His just Power, and are conscitous for the Laws of the Land, to perish, and be undone, because they are called Delinquents: And when they shall take upon them to dispense with the Attendance of those who are called by His Majestie writ, whilest they send them to Sea to rob His Majestie of His Ships, or into the severall Counties, to put His Subjects in Arms against Him. His

Majestie

Majestie (who onely hath it) will not lose the power to dispense with them to attend His own person, or to execute such Offices as are necessary for the preservation of Himself and the Kingdom, but must protect them, though they are called Delinquents.

For the manner of the proceeding against Delinquents, His Majestie will proceed against those who have no Priviledge of Parliament, or in such cases where no Priviledge is to be allowed, as He shall be advised by His learned Councell, and according to the known and unquestionable Rules of the Law, it being unreasonable that He should be compelled to proceed against those who have violated the known and undoubted Law, onely before them who have directed such violation.

Having said thus much to the particulars of the petition, Though His Majestie hath reason to complain, That since the sending this petition, they have beaten their Drums for Souldiers against Him, Armed their own Generall with a Power destructive to the Law and Liberty of the Subjects, and chosen a Generall of their Horse, His Majestie out of His Princely love, tenderneſſe and compaſſion of His People, and desire to preserve the Peace of the Kingdom, That the whole Force and Strength of it may be united for the defence of it self, and the relief of Ireland (in whose behalf He conjures both His Houses of Parliament, as they will answer the contrary to Almighty God, His Majestie, to those that trust them, and to that bleeding miserable

Kingdom. That they suffer not any Moneys gran-
ed and collected by Act of Parliament, to be diver-
or imployed against His Majestie, whilest His So-
diers in that Kingdom are ready to Mutinie, or p-
rish for want of pay, and the barbarous Rebels pr-
vail by that incouragement) Is graciously pleased
once more to propose and require;

That His Town of Hull be immediately delivered
up to Him, which being done (though His Majestie
hath been provoked by unheard of Insolencies of
Sir John Hotham, since his burning and drowning
the Countrey, in seizing His Wine, and other Provi-
sions for His House; and scornfully using His Ser-
vant, whom He sent to require them, saying, It
came to him by Providence, and he will keep it; and so
refusing to deliver it, with threats, if he or any other
of his fellow Servants should again repair to Hull
about it; And in taking and detaining Prisoners
divers Gentlemen, and others in their passage thro
the Kingdom into Lincolnshire, about their necessary
occasions, and such other indignities, as all Gentle-
men must resent on His Majesties behalf; His Ma-
jestie, to shew his earnest desire of Peace (for which He
will dispense with His own Honour) and how far
He is from desire of Revenge, will grant a Free and
Generall Pardon to all Persons within the
Town.

That His Majesties Magazine taken from Hull,
be forthwith put into such hands as He shall appoint.

That His Navie be forthwith delivered into such
hands as He hath directed for the Government
thereof;

thereof; The detaining therof after His Majesties Proclamations published and received to the contrary, and imploying His Ships against Him in such manner, as they are now used, being notorious high Treason in the Commanders of those Ships.

That all Armes, Leavies, and Provisions for a War, made by the Consent of both Houses by whose Example His Majestie hath been forced to make these preparations) be immediatly laid down; And the pretended Ordinance for the Militia, and all Power of imposing Laws upon the Subject, without His Majesties Consent, be disavowed, without which the same Pretence will remain to produce the same Mischiefs; All which His Majestie may as justfully demand, as to live, and can with no more Justice be denied Him, then His Life may be taken from Him.

These being done, and the Parliament adjourned to a safe and secure Place, His Majestie promises in the presence of God, and binds Himself by all His Confidence and Assurance in the Affection of His People, that He will instantly and most cheerfully lay down all the Force He shall have raised, and discharge all His future and intended Leavies, That there may be a generall face of Peace over the whole Kingdom; And will repair to them, and desires that all Differences may be freely debated in a Parliamentary way; whereby the Law may recover its due Reverence, the Subject his just Libertie, and Parliaments themselves their full Vigour and Estimation; And so the whole Kingdom, a blessed Peace, Quiet, and Prosperity.

If these Propositions shall be rejected, His Majestie doubts not of the Protection and Assistance of Almighty God, and the ready concurrence of His good Subjects, who can have no hope left them of enjoying their own long, if their King may be oppressed and spoiled, and must be remediless. And though His Towns, His Ships, His Armes, and His Money be gotten and taken from Him, He hath a good Cause left, and the Hearts of His People, which, with Gods blessing, He doubts not, will recover all the rest. Lastly, if the Preservation of the Protestant Religion, the defence of the Liberty and Law of the Kingdom, the Dignity and Freedom of Parliament, and the Recovery, and the Relief of bleeding and miserable Ireland, be equally precious to the Petitioners, as they are to His Majestie (who will have no quarrell but in defence of these) there will be a cheerfull and speedy Consent to what His Majesty hath now proposed and desired.

And of this His Majestie expects a full and positive answer by Wednesday the seven and twentieth of this instant July: Till when He will not make any Attempt of Force upon Hull, hoping in the Affection, Duty and Loyalty of the Petitioners: And in the mean time expects that no supply of Men be put into Hull, or any of His Majesties Goods taken from thence.

FINIS.